

IAP17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 APR 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-19 and 21-34 as set forth below. Please add new claims 35-39 as set forth below.

1. (Currently amended) Method of making an industrial fabric ~~by using~~comprising the use of laminated object manufacture.
2. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to~~The method of claim 1,
characterized in
~~that the method~~further comprising the steps of laminating a series of layers of film material and cutting perforations in the films of the laminate to provide a foraminous fabric.
3. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to claim 1 or 2~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in
~~that the film wherein a first layer of film material is bonded to the previous~~a second layer of
film material by application of pressure, ~~preferably by passing the two components through a~~
bonding nip.
4. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in
~~that adhesive having been applied to the~~further comprising the step of applying adhesive to an
underside of the most recent layer of film material to be laid down.
5. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in
~~that~~wherein the step of cutting perforations is performed using laser light.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in
~~that the method involving the step of cutting perforations in at least one of said film layers after~~
~~the film layer is secured to another film layer or film layers, wherein at least one of said another~~
~~layer or the layers of film material having~~has pre-cut perforations therein.
7. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in
~~that the~~wherein cut-out waste is removed by at least one of the following means alone or in
~~combination:~~ directing a burst of air at the waste material via a high pressure air jet, ~~or by~~
~~using~~use of an air knife ~~or~~and sucking the waste by vacuum.
8. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to~~the method of claim 7,
characterized in
~~that the method further comprise~~further comprising the step of permanently bonding the layers
by applying pressure load after removal of said cut-out waste.
9. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in
~~that~~wherein in ~~the~~the cut-out step at least one or individual laid down films~~film~~ are~~is~~ perforated.
10. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
characterized in wherein in the cut-out step at least two laid down films are perforated,
~~that the method further comprises the steps~~further comprising the step of starting with the film
having the largest holes in the first layer and then work up with subsequent film layers
possessing smaller holes.

11. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
~~characterized in~~
~~that~~wherein the perforations are cut-out in such a way that ~~that~~ at least one of aperture size, shape
~~and/or~~and distribution varies ~~deliberately and / or is~~ in at least one of a predetermined manner
and randomised throughout the fabric wherein the porosity of the fabric is kept substantially
uniform.
12. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
~~characterized in~~
~~that~~wherein the manufacture of the fabric is stopped at a semi-complete stage.
13. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to~~the method of claim 12,
~~characterized in~~
~~that a further blank film layer is bonded~~further comprising the step of bonding a blank film layer
to the laminated structure generating a semi-complete work piece, and that said semi-complete
work piece is stored in roll form for further processing by cutting the blank film layer and the
addition of a further set of individually cut laminate which can form the opposite face of the
fabric to the wearside.
14. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to~~the method of claim 13,
~~characterized in~~
~~that~~wherein a reference point is included to said semi-complete work piece for precise location
of the laser beam with respect to said work piece.
15. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the preceding claims~~The method of claim 2,
~~characterized in~~
~~that the manufacturing includes~~further comprising the step of spiral winding ~~the~~ a first formed
laminate over rollers and bonding the laminated fabric to a return of the spiral.

16. (Currently amended) ~~Method according to one of the claims 1 to 14~~The method of claim 2,
~~characterized in~~
~~that~~wherein the film layers are located side by side and the film layers of the subsequent layer
may straddle the joints between the films in the first layer.
17. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial~~An industrial fabric manufactured with a method according to
~~one of the claims 1 to 16~~claim 1.
18. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric according to~~the industrial fabric of claim 17,
~~characterized in~~
~~that the~~wherein orifices of the paperside apertures are smaller than at the a wearside.
19. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric according to claim 17 or 18~~The industrial fabric of
claim 17,
~~characterized in~~
~~that the~~wherein thickness of the various film layers being laminated together are different;
~~preferably that the thickness of the layers towards the intended machine side is thicker than the~~
~~ones towards the intended paper side.~~
20. (Original) Seamed industrial fabric comprising a laminate of foraminous films, wherein seam
loops are defined by film material.
21. (Currently amended) ~~Seamed~~The seamed industrial fabric ~~according to~~of claim 20,
~~characterized in~~
that said seam loops being provided by folding a fabric structure to provide a double thickness
fabric having seam loops.

22. (Currently amended) ~~Seamed~~The seamed industrial fabric according to ~~20 or 21~~of claim 20,
characterized in
that said seam loops being provided by encircling film material around a fabric inner so as to
define loops between said encircling film and said inner.
23. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to ~~one of the~~
~~claims 17 to 22~~of claim 17,
characterized in
thatwherein said fabric is a paper machine clothing, ~~preferably a dryer fabric.~~
24. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to ~~one of the~~
~~claims 17 to 23~~of claim 17,
characterized in
thatwherein said film material comprises ~~any~~at least one of the following materials ~~either alone~~
~~or in combination~~: polyester, polyimide, ~~or~~ PEN (polyethylenenaphalate), preferably high
performance films, such as MYLAR (trade mark of DuPont), KAPTON (trade mark of DuPont)
~~or and~~ and TEONEX ~~(trade mark of DuPont).~~
25. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to ~~one of the~~
~~claims 17 to 24~~of claim 17,
characterized in
thatwherein the individual film materials used for the individual layers of the fabric may be one
of the same or and different.
26. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to ~~one of the~~
~~claims 17 to 25~~of claim 17,
characterized in
thatwherein the film may comprise nonwoven sheets made from fibres.

27. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to one of the claims 17 to 26of claim 17,
characterized in
~~that~~wherein the adhesive material for bonding adjacent film layers comprise ~~any~~at least one of the following materials ~~either alone or in combination~~: epoxies, epoxy bismaleimides, and silicone RTV's.
28. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to one of the claims 17 to 27of claim 17,
characterized in
~~that~~wherein said fabric comprise an array of yarns extending in the intended running direction of said fabric.
29. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to one of the claims 17 to 28of claim 28,
characterized in
~~that~~wherein said yarns are at least one of monofilaments ~~or~~and multifilaments and preferably made from any of the following materials: steel, polyester, polyamide, polyolefin, PPS, PEEK para-aramid or from inorganic material, for example glass or basalt.
30. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to one of the claims 17 to 29of claim 28,
characterized in
~~that~~wherein said yarns are at least partly, and preferably fully, encapsulated in machine direction lands of said fabric.
31. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according toof claim 30,
characterized in

~~that wherein~~ said yarns ~~have been~~are incorporated into the fabric structure, after having initially laid down a number of layers.

32. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to ~~claim 30 or 31,~~
~~characterized in~~
~~that at the~~wherein at a position in the Z direction where said yarns are to be included a next film layer have been laid down as strips orientated in the running direction with small gaps between them to accommodate the yarns.
33. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to one of the
~~claims 30 to 32~~of claim 32,
~~characterized in~~
~~that the~~wherein a film thickness ~~will correspond~~corresponds to ~~the~~a yarn diameter.
34. (Currently amended) ~~Industrial fabric or seamed~~The industrial fabric according to one of the
~~claims 30 to 33~~of claim 30,
~~characterized in~~
~~that~~wherein void not filled by the yarn is filled with a polymer to secure the yarn to the structure.
35. (New) The method of claim 3,
wherein the application of pressure is by passing the two components through a bonding nip.
36. (New) The industrial fabric of claim 19, wherein the thickness of the layers towards the intended machine side is thicker than the layers towards the intended paper side.

37. (New) The industrial fabric of claim 17,
wherein the fabric is a seamed industrial fabric.

38. (New) The industrial fabric of claim 29,
wherein the at least one of monofilaments and multifilaments are made from at least one of the
following materials: steel, polyester, polyamide, polyolefin, PPS, PEEK para-aramid and
inorganic material.

39. (New) The industrial fabric of claim 38, the inorganic material is one of glass and basalt.